

**REMARKS**

The Examiner's time, cooperation and assistance in his interview with Applicant's attorney on March 16, 2009 is, of course, appreciated.

At the above-mentioned interview, new claim 33 was discussed. New claim 33 has been carefully drafted to more clearly define Applicant's invention over the prior art of record. In particular, new claim 33 now more clearly defines Applicant's invention as the suspended ceiling by clearly defining the ceiling tiles. As the Examiner agreed, the prior art of record did not disclose such a construction.

Instead, the Examiner's primary reference to Downing is directed to a wall structure, rather than a ceiling.

Additionally, as suggested by the Patent Examiner, claim 33 has been further amended to include the limitation of the screening strip disposed over the lower side of the bottom chord. None of the prior art of record, and certainly not the Downing reference nor the Chicago reference, disclose or suggest such a strip. Furthermore, there would be absolutely no reason to provide such a strip with either of these prior art references.

For the above reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 33 patentably defines Applicant's invention over the prior art of record. Claims 34-38 all depend from claim 33 and are, therefore, also allowable.

New claim 39 is also submitted at this time for examination by the Examiner. New claim 39 is identical to claim 33 except for the final paragraph. The scope of the final paragraph of claim 39, however, is identical to the scope of claim 33, but simply defines the support for the ceiling tiles somewhat more simply. However, the scope of claim 33 is the same as the scope of claim 39.

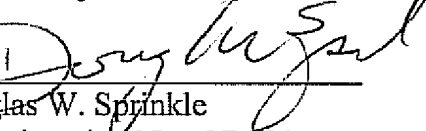
Similarly, new claims 40-44 all depend from new claim 39 and are, therefore, also allowable.

Applicant therefore respectfully submits that the instant application is in condition for formal allowance and such action is respectfully solicited.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 07-1180.

Dated:

Respectfully submitted,

By   
Douglas W. Sprinkle

Registration No.: 27,394

GIFFORD, KRASS, SPRINKLE, ANDERSON  
& CITKOWSKI, P.C.

2701 Troy Center Drive, Suite 330

Post Office Box 7021

Troy, Michigan 48007-7021

(248) 647-6000

(248) 647-5210 (Fax)

Attorney for Applicant